

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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January 23, 2007

Mr. Dennis Orbus Asst. Director – Cooperative Fire Management USDA – Forest Service (R5, FAM) 3237 Peacekeeper Way, Bldg. 200 McClellan, CA 95652

Dear Mr. Orbus:

Subject: Progress Report, Grant No. DG-06-11052012-173

Enclosed please find the six-month progress report for State Fire Assistance Grant No. DG-06-11052012-173.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to call Wayne Ching of my staff at (808) 587-4173.

Very truly yours,

Paul J. Conry Administrator

Enclosure

PROGRESS REPORT

Fire Management Program

Hawaii Department of Land & Natural Resources Division of Forestry and Wildlife

STATE: Hawaii
GRANT YEAR: 2006-2007

GRANT NUMBER: 06-DG-11052012-173

GRANT EXPIRATION DATE: 12.31.07

DATES COVERED BY THIS REPORT (Beginning): 07.01.06 (Ending): 12.31.06

For <u>each</u> project in the original or reprogrammed grant narrative, please report on the following:

I STATUS (Completed, ongoing, or not yet begun):

The fire program covered under the grant period is ongoing.

II WHAT HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED:

PREVENTION

- 1) Smokey made an appearance at the elementary schools on Hickam, Schofield, Kaneohe Marine Corps, and Pearl Harbor military bases with assistance from the Federal Fire Department during Fire Prevention Week. Smokey charmed the more than 2,500 adults and children that attended the events at the various bases.
- 2) Continued to promote and handout Fire Prevention materials and brochures to the public at the Administrative and Branch offices.
- 3) Smokey Bear made an appearance at the Volcano Village 4th of July Parade. The parade was attended by approximately 2,000 people.
- 4) Brought Smokey Bear to the Project WET event held by the Department of Water to give Smokey's message and passed out Smokey Bear items. Outreach was over 600 students and teachers. Visited all of the elementary on Kaua'i during October's Fire Prevention Week. Outreach was over 5,500 students and teachers.
- 5) Provided fire prevention information and paraphernalia at the Kahuku High School's career day fair. Approximately 100 students participated.
- 6) Participated in the Makawao Rodeo 4th of July Parade. Approximately 5,000 to 7,000 spectators witnessed the event. Master of ceremonies for the parade delivered a brief fire prevention message to the crowd. Ten volunteers joined our efforts. Ages ranged from 5 to 18 years old.
- 7) Participated in the Maui County Fair Parade (9/28/06) to promote fire prevention and the Smokey Bear campaign. In cooperation with the Maui County Fire Department, DOFAW entered four fire suppression vehicles along with Smokey Bear. Approximately 20,000 spectators witnessed the event

- 8) The Kohala By The Sea community on the Big Island updated its status as a 2006 Firewise Communities USA community.
- 9) The Maui DOFAW Branch is working in cooperation with Emanuel Preschool, Maui Outreach program (3rd grade students) and St. Anthony 3rd grade student teachers to conduct Smokey Bear 'Fire Prevention' interaction days with Smokey Bear. Activities will include forest hikes. Several interaction days are set for February and March 2007.
- 10) Participated in the 2006 Maui Association of Landscape Professionals fair. Handed out 100 firewise landscape plants throughout the day. Approximately 300 people attended the fair.
- 11) Together with other county and federal fire chiefs, the Oahu Branch staff attended the annual signing ceremony for Fire Prevention Week at the Governor's executive chambers.

PRESUPPRESSION

- 1) Continued to input fire reports into agency database files.
- Continued to conduct field exercises with DOFAW Branch personnel on fire vehicle and pump operations.
- Continued to monitor RAWS data statewide.
- Updated PPE's for DOFAW personnel. This included firepacks, new generation fire shelters, and fire boots.
- 5) Brought Smokey Bear to the Kauai County Farm Bureau Fair and passed out Smokey Bear items. Outreach was to approximately 800 residents and visitors.
- 6) Completed maintenance of 17 acres of firebreaks in Puu Waawaa, Hawaii.
- 7) The State Protection Forester and the Hawaii Protection Forester attended the California/Nevada/Hawaii Forest Fire Council meeting in Reno, NV in October. The State Protection Forester moderated a session entitled, "Pacific Islands Update" and made a presentation on the Spring '06 CNH Hawaii conference.
- 8) Attended meetings as a participating agency of the Maui and Big Island Wildfire Coordinating Groups.
- 9) Continued vegetation control in and around fenced RAWS locations.
- 10) Updated and maintained all RAWS Stations statewide.
- 11) Fire training records were updated for all DOFAW employees.
- 12) The DOFAW Fire web site (<u>www.state.hi.us/dlnr/dofaw/fmp</u>) was maintained and periodically updated during this period.
- 13) Statewide fire caches were updated and maintained.

- 14) Worked with R5 staff on the training schedule for Spring 2007 for Hawaii.
- 15) Completed maintenance of 12 miles of fire break in Puu Ka Pele FR and 7 miles of fire break in the Na Pali-Kona FR. 30 acres of vegetation was cleared for fuel reduction. 6 (2 acres each) safety zones were maintained to keep free of large vegetation growth.
- The State Protection Forester attended the 28th Annual Conference of the Hawaii Fire Chiefs Association in Lihue, Kauai on Nov. 16-19, 2006.
- 17) A DOFAW Fire Core Group meeting was held on July 12-14, 2006 to discuss budget issues and update training schedules for the Division.
- The DOFAW Fire Cadre conducted the 130/190 training on Kauai (Aug. 7-11) and Maui (Aug. 21-25) respectively. Students were made up of personnel from DOFAW, Kauai Fire Dept., Pacific Missile Range Facility (Barking Sands), Americorps, Maui Fire Dept., and Haleakala National Park. A total of 45 personnel attended these two training sessions.
- 19) Met with Maui Electric Company maintenance supervisor, Steve Williams to update him on DOFAW's current co-op with MECO's vegetation management program. Updated him on current management projects, such as Ukumehame and Olinda powerlines and talked about future management plans.
- 20) The DOFAW Fire Cadre attended the 2006 Firewise Conference held in Denver, CO November 2-5, 2006.
- 21) Developed a fire mitigation plan for the Gouania plant exclosure in Lahaina, Maui.
- 22) Three miles (7.3 acres) of firebreak were maintained in the Makawao Forest Reserve.
- 23) Met with IPIF and U.S. Army staff to work out a research grant request with Joint Fire Science Program regarding fuel models, invasive species, wildlfire cycle, microclimate, and fire behavior.
- 24) Reviewed U.S. Marine Corps (MCBH) vegetation management plan for their Bellows Field training area with special insight towards fuels management, use of incendiaries, and adjacent wildland-urban interface issues.
- 25) Oahu Branch staff worked with the Honolulu Fire Department's management team in providing technical expertise on fuels and fire potential outlook for the island of Oahu.
- Participated in a Kauai fire fuels workshop hosted by the Pacific Disaster Center for the Kauai county fire and planning officials with special emphasis on wildlad-urban interface areas.
- 27) DOFAW staff attended a FEMA based Train-the-Trainer course hosted by Hawaii State Civil Defense. The course module covered ICS100 thru ICS 400.

- Worked with DOFAW'S GIS Specialist to update Oahu Branch's fire response map. Acquisition of lands at Manana (910 acs), Mokuleia (171 acs), and Olomana (2.457 acs.) prompted conversion from "Pink" to "Green" zones.
- 29) Acquired 1 dozen surplus VHF Saber radios from HFD to allow interoperability with them and other emergency response services.
- 30) Forestry Crew, HBWS, and U.S. Army work/trained together in helicopter and tree falling operations to remove debris and improve helispot on the ridge separating Waianae Kai F.R. and the Makaha Forestlands.
- 31) Attended the Drought Committee meeting to get briefing from NWS and Climatologists regarding outlook for the remainder of the year and prognosis for CY 2007, i.e. there is onset of the El Nino pattern so can expect drying conditions.
- 32) Provided basic radio operating instructions to DOFAW Admin and OISC staff.
- 33) Budgeted for and acquired a position in the Oahu Branch for a Protection Forester and currently in the process of filling the position.
- Participated in Oahu's Public Safety Oversight Committee's communications exercise to demonstrate interoperability capability.

SUPPRESSION

- During this reporting period, DOFAW was involved in 13 wildfires across the state. There were two fires on Oahu (776 acres), one fire on Molokai (4 acs.), four fires on Maui (9,485 acs.), and six fires on the Big Island (2,453 acres). These fires occurred within a 14-week span from July 1 to Oct 10. The Division's fire contingency fund was again drawn down to critical levels. A budget proviso request to the Governor, however, added additional funding to the fire contingency fund for the remainder of the fiscal year.
- 2) The fire database was updated during this grant-reporting period.
- PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED (Including explanation if project is behind schedule; if necessary, prepare a separate grant extension):

No problems were encountered in meeting the objectives of the grant.

IV CHANGES PLANNED (If narrative objectives would change, or if more than 10% of the grant funding would change categories, prepare a separate request for reprogramming):

No changes planned at this time.

V OTHER COMMENTS: None.

EXPENDITURES TO DATE:

OVERALL SUMMARY (as of 11/30/06)	Grant Funds	Matching Funds
Original grant award (this program)	\$575,000	\$575,000
 What was spent before the period of this progress report 	-0-	-0-
 What was spent and obligated during the period of this progress report 	\$375,000	\$93,590.12
= Funds remaining	\$200,000	\$181,409.88

BREAKDOWN OF GRANT EXPENDITURES DURING THIS REPORTING PERIOD:

Item or category	\$ Spent	\$ Obligated
Salary	\$ 443,540.73	\$ 0
Fringe (36.46%) + other payroll	\$ 161,714.96	\$ 0
Other (travel, admin. costs, supplies, etc.)	\$ 145,164.78	\$ 24,565.01
Contract & Epuipment	\$ 18,169.65	\$ 209,792.01
Total	\$ 768,590.12	\$ 234,357.02